



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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2009 Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest Deadline Approaching

Entries accepted until June 1

BOSTON – Whether it's families picking strawberries or a herd of dairy cows basking in the sun, the Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR) is encouraging the public to capture the spirit of Massachusetts farming and enter their pictures in the department's annual Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar Photo Contest.

"We're looking for photos that emphasize the vibrancy of our farming community in Massachusetts throughout all the seasons," said DAR Commissioner Doug Petersen. "With an abundance of agricultural products in the Bay State and acres of orchards and fields, pastures and vineyards, the hard work is done – all you have to do is aim and focus."

The deadline for this year's calendar contest entries is June 1, and winning entries will be published in the 2009 Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar.

The contest and calendar are sponsored by the DAR, Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., and the US Dept of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Past calendars included pictures of sheep grazing on Martha's Vineyard, ripe apples in Northboro, hens in Harvard, day lilies in Clinton, and a Hatfield pumpkin field. To see prior winning photos go to www.mass.gov/massgrown.

In addition to having their photos published and credited in next year's calendar, winning photographers will be invited to a ceremony at the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E)

in Springfield in September (with fair tickets included), and will receive complimentary copies of the 2009 calendar.

The following contest rules apply:

- 1) All photos must depict an aspect of Massachusetts agriculture or horticulture. Photos must have been taken in Massachusetts within the past three years.
- 2) Entrants must not be professional photographers (photography as a primary source of income), and may only submit their own original photographs.
- 3) All entries must be prints no smaller than 4x6 inches and no larger than 8x10 inches. Slides and digital photos should also be submitted as prints. Original negative, slide or digital files should be available upon request. Photos must not be framed or mounted.
- 4) Entrants may submit up to five photos each.
- 5) On an index card or paper, type or print the following information and attach with tape to the back of each photo (please do not write directly on the back of the photo or use staples or paper clips, since this will damage the photo):
 - Entrant name
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - Where the photo was taken and information relating to the subject
 - Month and year photo was taken
- 6) Fill out and send the entry form (available at www.mass.gov/massgrown) along with photos to:

Photo-Contest 2007
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114-2151

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